

attracted towards the tropics by the amenities of the south. Observing the many peculiarities in character and ancient custom which the native peoples of Ireland and Wales share with the races of the Mediterranean—with some races indeed of the East—and their extraordinary persistency, we may indulge in the speculation that these peoples have also come from southern latitudes, and are, in consequence, as remote in their sympathies from the English, as the English are from the inhabitants of Italy and Spain. During the last few centuries northern countries have increased immensely in wealth and have attracted immigrants, who may in time change very materially the character of their inhabitants. The Irish have spread in large numbers to England and America; the Italians and other Mediterranean peoples have flocked to New York in hundreds of thousands. Large seaports have always attracted a foreign population; for generations Londoners have been receiving into their houses strangers from all countries of the world, and it may be held that traces of an intermixture of southern blood may already be seen in their features and character. There is certainly a great difference between them and the towns population of northern England, which have been affected less intimately by alien immigration. Generally, however, the outstanding

feature of  
the ancient history of Europe  
has been the  
periodic infusion of northern  
energy into the  
productiveness of the south.  
Modern history  
begins when the north became  
productive as well  
as energetic. But the success of  
northern races  
is won by their character not by their  
riches, and  
it would be an evil day for the progress  
of mankind  
were their traits to be obliterated by  
an influx of  
alien blood. We might gain a wider  
development